

# **United States Department of Agriculture**

**Public Hearing**

**Country of Origin Labeling Law**

**Orange County Administration Building  
201 S. Rosalind St.  
Orlando, FL 32801**

**Presentation by**

**Southeastern Fisheries Association, Inc.**

**1118-B Thomasville Road  
Tallahassee, FL 32303**

**Resolution Supporting Country of Origin Labeling Law**



## **SOUTHEASTERN FISHERIES ASSOCIATION, INC.**

ALABAMA · FLORIDA · GEORGIA · MISSISSIPPI · NORTH CAROLINA · SOUTH CAROLINA  
Mount Vernon Square 1118-B Thomasville Road Tallahassee, Florida 32303-6287

### **RESOLUTION SUPPORTING COUNTRY OF ORIGIN LABELING**

WHEREAS, Congress has enacted legislation calling for labeling of the Country of Origin on a wide array of food products imported to the United State, and

WHEREAS, such labeling allows consumers to choose either domestic or imported food products for their dietary needs and desires, and

WHEREAS, the domestic harvesting sector will have a fairer way to compete on the United States market if consumers know where the products come from, and

WHEREAS, there have always been inequities in the shrimp sector due to a loophole in regulations allowing a company to add bread to foreign shrimp and then declare the shrimp as a product of the USA, and,

WHEREAS, other loopholes in current regulations have made it impossible for consumers to know if seafood products are from the wild harvest or pond raised, and

WHEREAS, harmful antibiotics have been used to destroy salmonella and other pathogens in growing waters and traces of these antibiotics have been found on shrimp and crab from several Asian countries,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that Southeastern Fisheries Association supports the Country of Origin legislation passed by Congress, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Southeastern Fisheries Association fully supports the position of the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services.

Signed and sealed this 14th day of May, 2003

*Salvatore J. Vassallo, Jr.*  
Attest: Bob Jones  
Executive Director

**Serving the Southeastern Seafood Industry proudly since 1952**